

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims, in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A method to treat or ameliorate neurological disorders comprising intrathecal injection of an effective amount of a double-stranded (ds) RNA into a subject in need, wherein said dsRNA inhibits the expression of a target gene.
2. (original) A method according to claim 1 wherein said neurological disorder is selected from the group consisting of Alzheimer, Parkinson, multiple sclerosis, schizophrenia, epilepsy, depression and pain.
3. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~ wherein said neurological disorder is chronic neuropathic pain.
4. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~ wherein said chronic pain is selected from the group consisting of cancer pain, osteoarthritis pain, allodynia and hyperalgesia.
5. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any of~~ the preceding claims wherein said target gene is selected from the group consisting of purine receptors P1 or P2, Galanin R1 receptor, IL-24, IL-20Ralpha, IL-20Rbeta, Mob-5 or MMP7.
6. (currently amended) The method according to ~~any of~~ the preceding claims wherein said target gene is P₂X₃ or P₂X₂ or Mob-5.
7. (currently amended) A method as in ~~any of~~ the preceding claims wherein the subject in need is a human.
8. (currently amended) A method as in ~~any of~~ claims 1-6 wherein the subject in need is a rat.
9. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any of~~ the preceding claims wherein at least 200µg of dsRNA are intrathecally injected.
10. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any of~~ the preceding claims wherein the dsRNA comprises a double-stranded region of 15 to 25 nt.
11. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any of~~ the preceding claims wherein the dsRNA comprises a 3' overhang on the antisense or the sense strand, or both strands, of at least one nucleotide.

12. (original) A method according to claim 10 wherein the overhang contains at least one modified nucleotide.
13. (original) A method according to claim 11 wherein the overhang comprises at least one 2'-MOE modified nucleotide.
14. (original) A method according to claim 10 wherein the overhang comprises 4 Uracils.
15. (currently amended) A method according to ~~according any of~~ the preceding claims wherein the dsRNA comprises at least one phosphorothioate linkage.
16. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a double stranded RNA inhibiting the expression of P_2X_3 or P_2X_2 in an amount effective to treat chronic pain in a subject in need.
17. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of at least one double stranded RNA, said double stranded RNA comprising a strand of the sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos: 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17 and 22.
18. (original) Use of a double stranded RNA for the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of chronic pain.
19. (original) The use of claim 18 wherein the double stranded RNA inhibits purine receptors P1 or P2 or Galanin R1 receptor or IL-24 or IL-20Ralpha or IL-20Rbeta, Mob-5 or MMP7 or P_2X_3 or P_2X_2 .
20. (currently amended) The use of claim 18 ~~or 19~~ wherein said chronic pain is cancer pain or osteoarthritis pain or allodynia or hyperalgesia.